


RURAL DISTRICT OF PENISTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1938.

THOS. H. EASTON, M.D., B.Ch.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PENISTONE :
JAMES H. WOOD, THE DON PRESS.
1939.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29984063>

RURAL DISTRICT OF PENISTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1938.

THOS. H. EASTON, M.D., B.Ch.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PENISTONE :
JAMES H. WOOD, THE DON PRESS.
1939.

PENISTONE RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER,

1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
PENISTONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1938.

The feature of the year was the incorporation in the District of three additional parishes—of Stainborough ; of Ingbirchworth, including Gunthwaite ; and of Dunford, including Hazlehead, Carlecotes, and Crow Edge. As a result the acreage has been enormously increased, and it is now **29,003** acres, instead of as formerly **15,258**.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the District.

Population.—For statistical purposes the population of the now ten parishes of the District, large portions of which are moorland, has been returned by the Registrar General as 6,548, an increase over the figure for 1937 of 1,403. The additional parishes

have not brought to the District any noteworthy new occupational activities, and the inhabitants of the whole area are still employed chiefly in agriculture, in coal mining, in steel and iron works, in wire drawing, in stone quarrying, and in the various services appertaining to such industries. There are no outworkers. The drift of young adult life into adjacent and distant areas still continues. The increasing activity in house building, however, coupled with the general salubriousness of the District, will almost certainly cause this emigration to lessen.

The Rateable Value of the District is now £34,210, and a penny rate has a productive value of £131 14s. 9d.

Vital Statistics.

The number of inhabited houses has now risen to 1,897. This gives an average of occupants per house of 3.4.

Births.—The number of births registered in the District during the year was 67—males 32, females 35. This gives a birth-rate of 10.2 per thousand of the population, a figure lower than that for 1937—12.8, lower than the average for the District of the immediately preceding decade—14.9, and lower for the year than that for all England—15.1. The drop in the birth-rate, however, is more apparent than real, since it is the addition to the District of the new parishes with a birth-rate of 7.7 which is responsible. Nevertheless it is an undoubted fact that the women of this generation are reproducing themselves only to the extent of some 75 per cent. This is of ill omen for the future, and if continued, must inevitably result in the population of this country being reduced within three generations to something under ten million souls. It may be that for our Western civilisation it is “The Writing on the Wall.” Other nations have risen and fallen; will it be the fate of Britain to join them?

There was one illegitimate birth.

The births had the following distribution :—

| | | Males | | Females | | Total |
|---------------|-----|-------|-----|---------|-----|-------|
| Thurgoland | ... | 1 | ... | 7 | ... | 8 |
| Silkstone | ... | 9 | ... | 7 | ... | 16 |
| Cawthorne | ... | 5 | ... | 4 | ... | 9 |
| Oxspring | ... | 7 | ... | 12 | ... | 19 |
| Hunshelf | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | 3 |
| Langsett | ... | 1 | ... | 0 | ... | 1 |
| Ingbirchworth | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | 3 |
| Dunford | ... | 5 | ... | 1 | ... | 6 |
| Stainborough | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 2 |
| | | — | | — | | — |
| Total | ... | 32 | ... | 35 | ... | 67 |
| | | — | | — | | — |

Deaths.—The number of deaths from all causes registered in the District during the year was 56—males 26, females 30, a death-rate of 8.7 per thousand of the population. When, however, the figure is corrected for inward and outward transfers, it becomes 72—males 38, females 34, a death-rate of 10.9. This is lower than that for 1937—11.0, lower than the average for the District of the last decade—11.3, and also lower than that for all England during the year—11.6.

Of the deaths, 16 were of persons of upwards of 70 years of age. Unhappily 7 occurred among infants.

Inquests were held in 6 cases.

The deaths outside the District occurred at Sheffield, Barnsley, Penistone, Wakefield, Leeds, Blackpool, Holmfirth, Kirkburton, Hendon, Dodworth, and Wharfedale Sanatorium.

The distribution of the deaths registered in the District was as follows :—

| | | Males | | Females | | Total |
|---------------|-----|-------|-----|---------|-----|-------|
| Thurgoland | ... | 6 | ... | 7 | ... | 13 |
| Silkstone | ... | 6 | ... | 13 | ... | 19 |
| Cawthorne | ... | 6 | ... | 3 | ... | 9 |
| Oxspring | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 2 |
| Hunshelf | ... | 0 | ... | 4 | ... | 4 |
| Langsett | ... | 1 | ... | 0 | ... | 1 |
| Ingbirchworth | ... | 1 | ... | 0 | ... | 1 |
| Stainborough | ... | 1 | ... | 0 | ... | 1 |
| Dunford | ... | 4 | ... | 2 | ... | 6 |
| | | — | | — | | — |
| Total | ... | 26 | ... | 30 | ... | 56 |
| | | — | | — | | — |

Respiratory Diseases.—The deaths registered as occurring from Respiratory Diseases numbered 9—males 3, females 6. Pneumonia (all forms except Tuberculosis) was responsible for 2, both males; Bronchitis for 4—males 2, females 2; Pulmonary Oedema for 2—both females; and Bronchiectasis for 1, a female.

Infantile Mortality.—The deaths among children under one year of age numbered 7—males 5, females 2, a mortality rate of 104.4. This is a staggering increase, when the figure is compared with that of 1937—15.1. It is also approximately double that for all England—53.0. Yet since three of the children who died had endured extra-uterine life for less than twenty four hours, as it were, they had hardly begun to live, the figures need not spread consternation in our ranks. Still a low birth-rate and a high infantile mortality are an ominous combination.

The following is an extract from the Vital Statistics of the year :—

| | | Males | Females | Total | |
|----------|--------------|-------|---------|-------|-------------------|
| Births { | Legitimate | 31 | 35 | 66 | } Birth-rate 10.2 |
| | Illegitimate | 1 | 0 | 1 | |
| | | — | — | — | |
| | Total | 32 | 35 | 67 | |
| | | — | — | — | |
| Deaths | (corrected) | 38 | 34 | 72 | Death-rate 10.9 |

No woman died in, or in consequence of child-birth.

There were no deaths from Measles (all ages) nor from Diarrhœa (under 2 years).

The deaths under 1 year of age were due to prematurity — 3 ; Bronchitis, 1 ; Gastro-Enteritis, 1 ; Convulsions, 1 ; and Subdural Hæmorrhage, 1.

General Provision of Health Services in the District.

The hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority are two in number, one for infectious diseases generally, and one for Smallpox. The former is situated at Hoyland Moor, Hoyland Swaine, and the latter in Roughbircworth, Oxspring. During the year accommodation has proved adequate and satisfactory. The efficiency of the service is beyond dispute.

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate and homeless children, exists in the Public Assistance Infirmary at Penistone.

Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are admitted as circumstances permit to the adjacent and County Sanatoria.

For maternity, juvenile, and non-infectious cases, and for cases of accident, the Public Assistance Infirmary at Penistone, and the General Hospitals at Sheffield, Barnsley, and Huddersfield, are available.

A motor vehicle is supplied by the Authority for the conveyance of fever cases to the Isolation Hospitals. For other cases, ambulances are provided by the Authority, and for contributors to the Penny-in-the-£ Scheme, by the Sheffield Hospitals.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—Owing to the scattered nature of the area, no further developments have taken place during the year. Many of the population visit the centres in adjacent districts. I would repeat here that if the Centres are not to antagonise the General Medical Practitioner, it is essential, in my opinion, that where those responsible for their management, find special or indeed any disorders, they should forthwith refer the patients concerned to their several medical advisers.

The Public Health Officers.—These are the Medical Officer of Health to the Authority—a part time Officer—and the Sanitary Inspector, who is also Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances—a whole time Officer.

Professional Nursing in the Home.—This continues largely in the hands of voluntary agencies, and the various parishes either have their own, or contribute to adjacent District Nursing Associations. No arrangements exist for the nursing of cases of infectious diseases at home—a most reprehensible practice—but during epidemic outbreaks a Health Visitor may be sent into the affected area, on the instructions of the County Medical Officer of Health.

The nurses of the District Nursing Associations act as the midwives of the area. There are, however, two independent mid-wives resident at Silkstone and Oxspring respectively.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918.—Under this Order, a sufficient supply of milk and food for expectant and nursing mothers, and of milk for infants and children under five years of age is available.

Legislation in Force.

The Public Health Act, 1875.

Section 16, P.H.A., 1890.

Section 59, P.H.A., 1907.

Slaughter House Regulations.

Urban Powers—Street Lighting for Thurgoland and Oxspring.

Local Bye-Laws.

Section 42, P.H.A., 1907.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

See also Table C appended hereto.

Water Supply.—The water supply of the District is obtained from deep bore-holes, from upland surface collecting areas, and from public and private springs and wells. Distribution is in the hands of the Local Authority, and of the Barnsley Corporation. It is satisfactory to be able to report that my investigations during the year have shown that so far as piped water supplies is concerned, the District as a whole is very favourably circumstanced.

Rivers and Streams.—These continue to be seriously polluted by Sulphuric Acid from the wire-drawing mills on their banks, and by ochre-containing colliery fluids. Under water life in them is non-existent.

Drainage and Sewage.—These continue to improve as extensions of the various water supplies takes place. See Table C appended hereto.

Closet Accommodation—It is again satisfactory to be able to record that water closets are replacing dry closets in ever increasing numbers. Much, however, yet remains to be done. Details of progress made will be found in Table C appended to this Report.

Scavenging.—The scavenging scheme of the Local Authority continues to function admirably. It is very imperative, however, that all householders assist the scheme by burning in their kitchen ranges and stoves all waste material that can be destroyed by fire. There still seems to me to be too great a tendency on the part of many people to expect everything to be done for them. Apparently 9d. for 4d. is an inadequate return. Of course, when illness occurs it is always the result of the negligence of the Authority, and never the outcome of personal mis-deeds, carelessness, or indifference to the laws of health. The Hebraic Scapegoat is by no means an extinct animal.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.—A statement of the details of this will be found in the appendices to this Report.

Schools.—The occupied schools in the District, now twelve in number, have been periodically visited and inspected, and matters of health interest discussed with the staffs.

It is a standing order that all schools be disinfected during the holiday seasons, and after the occurrence of infectious disease upon the premises.

It was not found necessary to close any of the schools during the year on public health grounds. Indeed it is in my opinion a debateable point whether any such closure can result in limiting the spread of any epidemic outbreak. It may indeed have such a desirable effect where the scholars live at isolated farms. Where, however, as is usually the case, the scholars reside in villages, closure of the schools is merely followed by more intimate contact out-of-doors of the children concerned.

Milk Supply.—All the cow-keepers in the District are purveyors of milk, and the supply has kept pace with the demand. But more milk, and yet more milk ought to be consumed. It is Mother Nature's first food for all mammals; it contains everything that is requisite and necessary for healthy growth and development; and having regard to its nutritive value, it is a cheap food. For children it is essential. But it must be pure, and if it is pure, then there is no need for pasteurisation. I agree that pasteurisation is a procedure of great value, but raw milk, pure at its source, uncontaminated by milker, by transport to consumer, or by carelessness in storage on the part of the consumer, and it too frequently happens that the producer is blamed where the consumer is really at fault, is infinitely preferable to milk so treated. If milk requires sterilisation in order to render it a safe food, the cows furnishing such milk should be destroyed. For many years I have consistently urged that all herds should be systematically tuberculin-tested. This is really imperative.

The cow-sheds have been regularly inspected, and found to be fairly satisfactory. There is still room, however, for greater cleanliness, and better ventilation. Five cows found to be suffer-

ing from Tuberculosis in some form, were cremated. I might here mention that more than a thousand cows, calves, sheep, lambs, and pigs had to be destroyed on account of Foot and Mouth Disease. I am still unconvinced that the institution of such a holocaust is the best method of dealing with a disease, which is essentially a non-fatal one.

Other Foods.—No public Abattoir has yet been established in the District. The private slaughter houses have been periodically inspected, and existing powers have been found to be adequate in dealing with any insanitary conditions in such places. There are nine Private Slaughter Houses in the area. Of these one is registered, and eight are licensed.

Prevalence of and Control Over Infectious Disease.

Infectious Diseases Generally.—From serious Infectious Disease, the District was even happier in its relative immunity than during 1937. A widely spread epidemic of Influenza, however, occurred in January, February, and March. This epidemic was characterised by the absence of complications. Convalescence in nearly all cases was noteworthy in that its duration was inordinately prolonged.

Measles was prevalent in Hunshelf, Thurgoland, and Stainborough, during March, April, and May, and Chicken-pox at Cawthorne during November; but in no instance was it found necessary to close any school on public health grounds.

A supply of Anti-Diphtheritic Serum is always available, and its prompt exhibition is urged in all cases suspected to be suffering from Diphtheria.

Bacteriological aids to diagnosis are within easy reach at Wakefield.

No return case of Scarlet Fever has been noted. This is a tribute to the efficiency of the Hoyland Moor Hospital.

Arrangements for isolation and treatment exist in the Isolation Hospitals near Penistone. Where cases are treated at home — a hopelessly deplorable practice — as complete a segregation as is possible is insisted upon.

All cases of Infectious Disease have been carefully investigated, and every possible step has been taken to trace their origin, and to limit and stamp out infection.

Disinfection of infected premises, bedding, clothing, etc., has been systematically carried out, and disinfectants have been supplied in all cases.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

During the year ten cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease were reported to me, eleven fewer than in 1937. This is a remarkable decrease. The following Table gives their nature and distribution :—

| | | Thurgoland | Silkstone | Oxspring | Ingbirchworth | Total |
|-----------------------|-----|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|-------|
| | | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| Erysipelas | ... | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Tuberculosis | ... | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | ... | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 10 |
| | | — | — | — | — | — |

All cases of Scarlet Fever were treated in hospital. This is as it should be.

The absence of any cases of Diphtheria is a matter for congratulation. Without doubt this immunity was almost entirely due to the policy of protective inoculation, which was so strenuously advocated by the Local Authority. It is not easy to assess the mental processes of those parents who object to inoculation. One is bound to assume that they have the welfare of their children at heart. Yet persistently they refuse the protection offered to them free of all cost. It is to be hoped that one of these days ignorance will give place to enlightenment; but it is an uphill work and very disheartening. Yet the practice of protective inoculation is a harmless one, and immunity from the disease for years—during the most susceptible period of life—may be confidently anticipated in at least ninety per cent. of cases.

Two new cases of Tuberculosis is not a great number, yet that they should occur at all is disquieting. May I repeat here what I have already tried to emphasize in former reports. It is tragic that it should be necessary, but even as a lone voice in the wilderness, I cannot remain silent. Tuberculosis is essentially a “Disease of Darkness,” and the fruit of ill-assorted marriages. Thus is it an indictment of housing conditions, and even more so, of social habits. Farm stock is carefully selected for breeding purposes, yet man—the lord of creation—weds where he will, the confetti falls in showers, the parson breathes his benediction, and the organ peals out triumphantly “The Voice that breathed o’er Eden.” Can it be wondered at that the Tubercle Bacillus chuckles to itself, and rejoices that all is well for the production of a C 3 population. Among such he knows that he will flourish amazingly. Yet if the fathers will eat sour grapes, the children’s teeth will be set on edge. It is all very deplorable, and the tragedy is that people of a Tuberculous tendency are notoriously prolific.

No action had to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Housing.

General Housing Conditions of the District.—The total number of houses in the District is now 1,897, an increase during the year of 462. Of these the number for the working classes is 1,637, an increase of 259. Since the whole gives an average of 3.4 persons per house it does not suggest over-crowding. Nevertheless, despite slum clearance, and the erection of multitudes of Council houses, conditions are still far from satisfactory, and still the larger families are found in the smaller dwellings. But a start has been made, and the outlook is definitely less dreary.

A summary of the housing work done during the year will be found in an appendix to this Report.

Factories and Workshops.

The number of these remains unchanged. They have been periodically inspected, and found to be fairly satisfactory.

A Register of Works is kept at the Council Offices.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. H. EASTON, M.D.

Thurgoland,

25th May, 1939.

Statement of Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year 1938.

Cases notified or otherwise ascertained :—Scarlet Fever 5 ; Puerperal Pyrexia 1 ; Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1 ; Erysipelas 1 ; Respiratory Tuberculosis (new cases only) 2.

Cases removed to Hospital :—Scarlet Fever 5.

TABLE C, 1938.

 Penistone Rural Sanitary District.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS—

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| Total No. of Inspections made in 1938, for Nuisances only—60 | |
| Nuisances found in 1938—7 | Total needing abatement—13 |
| Nuisances in hand end of 1937—6 | Abated during 1938—7 |
| | Outstanding end of 1938—6 |
| Informal Notices served—7 | Complied with—4 |
| Statutory Notices served—0 | Complied with—0 |
| Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—None | |

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.—

| | |
|--|--|
| Common Lodging Houses—No. in District, 0 ; No. on Register, 0 ; total No. of Inspections made, 0 ; general condition— Legal proceedings—0 | |
| Houses let in Lodgings—No. in District, 0 ; No. on Register, 0 ; Total No. of Inspections made, 0 ; General Condition— | |
| Canal Boats—0 | |
| Knackers' Yards—0 | |
| Tents, Vans and Sheds—0 ; No. on Register—0 ; Inspections—0 ; General Condition— | |
| Offensive Trades—Fishfriers ; No. in District, 0 ; No. on Register, 0 ; Total No. of Inspections made, 0 ; General Condition— Legal Proceedings 0. | |
| Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades?—No | |

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE—

| | |
|--|-----|
| Particulars of any sewer extensions during 1938—Roughbircworth Road, Oxspring, to 16 new houses | |
| Details of any portion of district still requiring— | |
| (a) Sewering—None known. Investigation proceeding | |
| (b) Improvement of defective sewers— | Do. |
| No. of houses not connected to sewers— | Do. |
| Sewage Disposal Works—Particulars of any extensions made during 1938—None | |
| Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works—None known | |
| Any complaint from West Riding Rivers Board—No | |

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of Privies with open middens—Survey in progress | |
| No. of Pail or Tub Closets— | Do. |
| No. of Privies with covered middens— | Do. |
| No. of Water Closets— Do. ; Waste Water Closets— Do. | |
| No. of Privies re-constructed during 1938—(a) as W.C.'s, 18 (b) other, 0 | |
| No. of Closets other than Privies, reconstructed during 1938 as W.C.'s—0 | |
| No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1938— (a) W.C.'s, 7 ; (b) other, 0 | |
| No. of Closets constructed in 1938 for new houses—(a) W.C.'s, 33 ; (b) other, 0 | |
| Any special action being taken by Council to secure conversion of privies, waste water closets and pails to W.C. System. If so, what?—None | |

SCAVENGING—

Is public scavenging in operation throughout the whole district?—
Yes

If not, is it in operation in any part of the area. If so please
specify part or parts—

How is refuse disposed of? Destruction—No Tipping—Yes
Farmers—No

If tipping is in operation, is it on the controlled system?—No

Total annual cost of collection and disposal of refuse—£1,000

Particulars of any extension or improvement in the service during
the year—None

WATER SUPPLY—

Source of supply—Oxspring Parish, Deep Boreholes; Thurgoland
Parish, Deep Springs; Cawthorne Parish, Deep Boreholes;
High Hoyland Parish, Deep Springs; Dunford Parish, Upland
Surface Water; Silkstone Parish, Upland Surface Water;
Stainbro' Parish, Upland Surface Water; Langsett Parish,
Upland Surface Water; Hunshelf Parish, Deep Springs and
Wells; Gunthwaite Parish, Upland Surface Water.

By whom distributed—Except Silkstone Parish by the Rural
District Council.

No. of dwelling houses on public supply—Not complete; investiga-
tion proceeding

Any extension of supply during the year?—Yes, at Bower Hill,
Oxspring

Has supply been satisfactory—Yes

(a) In quality—Yes (b) In quantity—Yes

No. of examinations made during the year—

(a) Chemical—2 Result—Satisfactory

(b) Bacteriological—5 Result—4 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory

Have any supplies been restricted or closed, if so, where?—Yes, 1 at
Marjory Wood, High Hoyland

MILK SUPPLY—

Are Two Registers being kept as required by Section 2 (3) Milk
and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922?—Yes

(a) For Retailers—Yes

(b) For Cow-keepers or Wholesale Traders—Yes

Have any retailers been removed from the Register?—No

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936—

1 No. of Licences in force in area for :—

(a) Production of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk—1; Samples of
designated milks examined bacteriologically :—No. Satis-
factory 2; Unsatisfactory 0; Total 2

(b) Production of "Accredited" Milk—11; Samples of designated
milk examined bacteriologically :— No. Satisfactory 17;
Unsatisfactory 2; Total 19

(c) In respect of Pasteurising plants—0

No. of Milk samples taken by Officers of L.A. for analysis under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928—0
 No. found adulterated—0
 No. of prosecutions—0

No. of samples of Ordinary Milk taken by Officers of L.A. for :

(a) Methylene blue test—0 (b) Presence of tuberculosis—0

Any special examination of Milk for Dirt, *e.g.*, sedimentation test—0

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1938—0

No. of Cowkeepers in district—223

No. registered—113

Total No. of Cowsheds—223

Total No. of Milk Cows—Not known

Total No. of Cowsheds Inspected during the year—120

Total No. of Cowshed Inspections—120

No. of Wholesale Traders Registered—0

No. of Retail Milk Sellers Registered—1

Observations as to structural conditions, cleanliness and methods of production and handling of milk—None

MEAT INSPECTION—

Any public abattoir in district ?—No

Total No. of private slaughterhouses—9 Made up of—
 1 Registered and 8 Licensed

No. unsatisfactory either as regards structure, position, or in other respects—None

Carcases inspected and condemned—

Number killed (if known)—300 Cows, 10 Calves, 440 Sheep and Lambs, 340 Pigs

Number inspected—0

All diseases except Tuberculosis : Whole carcasses condemned—None

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned—None

Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned—3 Cows

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned—2 Cows

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924—

Meat marking : Is scheme in force under above ?—No

If so, give particulars of action under same—

OTHER FOODS—

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officers of L.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928—None

No. found adulterated—0 No. of Prosecutions—0

No. of Bakehouses in district—2 Total Inspections—2

Are any of bakehouses underground, if so, how many ?—0

SCHOOLS—

No. of Schools in District—12

No. visited by M.O.H.—All

Action taken—Advisory

Schools closed by M.O.H.—None

General Sanitary Conditions—Satisfactory

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—

See attached copy of Home Office Form 572

SMOKE ABATEMENT—

No. of smoke observations each of 30 minutes duration taken during 1938—None
 No. of above showing excessive emission of black smoke—None
 No. of cautions issued—None
 No. of statutory notices issued—None
 No. of prosecutions—None

SHOPS ACT 1934, Sections 10 and 13 (3)—

No. of Visits paid under the above Act during 1938—6
 Unsatisfactory conditions found—None
 Remedied—None

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, etc.

No. in District—None

Is this class of dwelling showing signs of increase?—No

Have Council made bye-laws under Section 268 (4) Public Health Act, 1936?—No

CAMPING SITES—

No. of sites in area which were used for camping purposes during 1938—None
 No. of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936—None
 Any other observations—None

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS—

No. of Council houses found to be infected—None
 Other houses found to be infested—None
 What methods are employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs?—No action necessary
 What methods are employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses?—Minute inspection
 Is the work of disinfection carried out by the local authority or by a contractor?—

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS—

Are there in the district :—

(a) Any public swimming baths or pools?—No

(b) Any privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public?—Yes, at Cawthorne

If so, give brief particulars of each and state what action is taken to ensure satisfactory condition of the water— Situated at Cliff Hill, Cawthorne (Plunge bath), concrete sides and floor ; open ; supplied with water from stream ; under control in season. No action taken as to condition of water

- (c) Any samples of bath waters examined in 1938, apart from samples submitted to the County Bacteriological Laboratory.
If so give particulars—None

URBAN POWERS (Rural Districts only)—Are any urban powers in force in your District under Section 13 of the Public Health Act 1936?—
If so, what—None

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS in force in District

Please give complete list of Bye-laws and Regulations in force, and date of adoption in each case—

Oleansing of Footways, July, 1903
Scavenging, July, 1903
Prevention of Nuisances, July, 1903
Common Lodging Houses, July, 1903
New Streets and Buildings, 1917
Situation of Buildings—None
Slaughter houses. July, 1903

INFANT MORTALITY—

Any suggestions?—No
Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1938?—None

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES—

Diseases specially prevalent in 1938—Influenza, Measles, Chicken-pox
State months—Spring and Autumn
Any diseases specially added to notifiable list—No
Any influences threatening the health of the District—No
Any arrangements for nursing Puerperal Fever Cases? (for areas autonomous under the M. & C.W. Act, 1918)—
At Home—No In Hospital—No

ISOLATION HOSPITALS—

General Infectious Diseases—
Address of Hospital—Hoyland Moor, Hoyland Swaine
Any change or extension in 1938—No
Any disease in addition to Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever or Diphtheria (e.g. Pneumonia or non-notifiable disease) treated in Infectious Diseases Hospital—No
Name of Authority controlling—Penistone Urban and Rural District Councils
Smallpox—
Address of Hospital—Roughbitchworth, Oxspring
Any change or extension in 1938—No
Name of Authority controlling—Penistone Urban and Rural District Councils

GENERAL HOSPITALS AND INSTITUTIONS—

- (a) General and Accident—None
Children's—None
(b) Local: Hospital, Cottage—None
(c) Maternity (Homes)—1 Address—Melita Maternity Home, Oxspring

NURSES HOMES (Public Health Act, 1936, Section 187)—

Are there, to your knowledge, any Nursing Homes in your district which may not be registered?—No

AMBULANCE SERVICES—

For General Sick and Accident Cases—

Location of Ambulance, Bridge End Garage, Penistone; Ownership, Penistone & District Ambulance Committee; Type of Ambulance, Motor, Austin 12; Arrangements for nurse to accompany patient, None; Charges (if any) to patients in district, None

For General Infectious Disease Cases—

Location of Ambulance, Isolation Hospital; Ownership, Isolation Hospital Committee; Type of Ambulance, Motor Morris; Arrangements for nurse to accompany patient, None; Charges (if any) to patients in district, None

For Smallpox—

Location of Ambulance, None; Ownership, None; Type of Ambulance, None; Arrangements for nurse to accompany patient, None; Charges (if any) to patients in district, None

If ambulance of another Authority is used, please state terms and conditions—None

MORTUARIES. What accommodation—

(a) for accidents—None

(b) for infectious cases other than at hospital—None

(c) for other purposes—None

(d) for post mortem examinations—None

Any suggestions by M.O.H.—A mortuary ought to be established

BACTERIOLOGY (County Laboratory)—

Any suggestions?—No

BURNING SPOIL BANKS.

Any nuisance therefrom? If so, please give particulars—None

SANITARY STAFF

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H.—£65

Name of Sanitary Inspector—William Harold Owen

Annual Salary as Inspector—£258

Other Appointments held—Housing Officer, Waterworks Manager, Sanitary Surveyor

Salary for such other appointments—£15, £30, £52

Any Assistants?—No

Is Staff sufficient?—Yes

Does M.O.H. receive copies of Memos. and Circulars distributed by Ministry of Health—Yes

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS ON ANY SUBJECTS—None

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS as to Sanitary Requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes on any of the foregoing entries. Any suggestions as to need for County Clinic or Dispensaries, or as to existing Clinics or Dispensaries—None

HOUSING STATISTICS.

*Table D.**Year 1938.*

Summary of Housing Work showing the action taken under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1925; the Housing Act, 1930, and the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, or matters arising therefrom.

1.—*Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.*

1. *a* Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)—300
b Number of inspections made for the purpose—200
2. *a* Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932—113
b Number of inspections made for the purpose—200
3. Number of dwelling-houses needing further action—113
a Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation—6
b Number (excluding those in sub-head *a* above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation—107
Totals of 3—*a* and *b* should equal figure given for (3)

2.—*Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.*

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or their Officers—12

3.—*Action under Statutory Powers during the year.*

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936.

1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs—51
2. No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—0
a By owners—0
b By Local Authority in default of owners—0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts

1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied—1
2. No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—0
a By owners—Yes
b By Local Authority in default of owners—0

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13, Housing Act, 1936

1. No. of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation—7
2. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made—3
3. No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders—1

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

1. No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made—2
2. No. of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit—0

4—*Unhealthy Areas.*

Have any areas been declared Clearance Areas during the year 1938? If so, please give full particulars as to such, including situation, number of houses, population, and action taken relative thereto—

| Parish. | No. of houses. | Situation. | Population. | Action taken |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Silkstone | 3 | Cliff Square, Silkstone | Nil | Confirmed by Ministry |

5—*Number of new houses erected during the year 1938.*

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-----|----|
| a By the Local Authority | ... | ... | 30 |
| b By private enterprise | ... | ... | 3 |
| | Total | ... | 33 |

6.—*Housing Conditions.*

1. Total number of houses in the District—1674, add 223 farm houses total 1897
2. Number of working-class houses included in the above—1637
3. General observations as to housing conditions, overcrowding, and shortage of houses—
4. Any special activity in house building, if so, where?—
None, except by Local Authority—15 houses at Cawthorne, 27 houses at Silkstone, 16 houses at Oxspring
5. Any housing scheme projected by Local Authority? If so, give particulars—No
6. Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936—None

7.—*Town Planning.*

1. Is the Council a member of any Regional Town Planning Committee? If so, which?—Sheffield Regional Town Planning Committee
2. Is a Town Planning Scheme in force for
 - a The whole of the District—No
 - b Part of the District—No
 If so, give particulars of scheme—Not applicable

3. Have Council during 1938 passed a resolution deciding to prepare a Town Planning Scheme? If so, does it relate to

a Whole District—No

b Part of District—No

If part only, please state which part—Not applicable

8.—Name and address of Officer designated to make in inspections the Housing Consolidated Regulations—

William Harold Owen, Hall Royd, Silkstone Common, near Barnsley

9.—Has any action been taken to improve the housing conditions of tuberculosis families in your district, either by way of building new or special houses, or the granting of special facilities for such families to be housed? If so, please state action taken—No

10.—*Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding*

(*a*) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year—40

(2) Number of families dwelling therein—40

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein—200

(*b*) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year—0

(*c*) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year—19

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases—107

(*d*) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding—None

(*e*) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report—None

Signed

THOS. H. EASTON, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1938, for the

RURAL DISTRICT OF PENISTONE

In the County of The West Riding, Yorkshire,

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act,
1901, in connection with

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors
or Inspectors of Nuisances.

| | | | | Inspections |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-----|-------------|
| Factories (with mechanical power) | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Factories (without mechanical power) | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| | | | | — |
| | Total | ... | ... | 16 |
| Written Notices, None | | Occupiers prosecuted, None | | |

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops & Workplaces

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—None

Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act—None

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

None

